

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Enclosed is a clear copy of Figures 1a and 1b as requested by the Examiner.

Attachment: Replacement sheets

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 12-32 are currently being prosecuted. Claims 12-14 and 20 have been amended by the present amendment. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the Amendments and Remarks as set forth hereinbelow.

CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

It is respectfully Applicant's claim for foreign priority be acknowledged in the next Office Action.

DRAWINGS

Enclosed is a clear copy of Figures 1a and 1b as requested by the Examiner.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating claims 21-32 are allowed.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC § 102

Claims 12, 15, 16 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Kuhn. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended independent claim 12 includes a combination of elements and has been amended to clarify that the lifter comprises a supporting lifter device, against which the target falls when hit and a non-moveable lifter part arranged below and closer to the target than the supporting lifter device such that when the carriage is lowered, the non-moveable lifter part lifts the target to the substantially upright position utilizing the movement of the carriage and an inertia of the target.

On the contrary, as shown in Figure 4 of Kuhn, the target 98 is lifted to an upright position via moveable mechanisms 112-126. Note the lifting mechanism in Kuhn is not a non-moveable part arranged below and closer to the target than the

supporting lifter device such that when the carriage is lowered, the non-moveable lifter part lifts the target to the substantially upright position utilizing the movement of the carriage and an inertia of the target. Rather, the lifting part in Kuhn includes several moveable components which move from a position shown in Figure 3 to a position shown in Figure 4 to move the target 98 to an upright position. Thus, the lifting part in Kuhn is not advantageously arranged to use the inertia of the target to lift the target in Kuhn.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted independent claim 12 and each of the claims depending therefrom are also allowable.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC § 103

In addition, it is respectfully submitted the other 103 rejections noted in the Office action have also been overcome as the claims rejected therein are dependent claims and Piddle et al. also does not teach or suggest the claimed features nor the combinations thereof.

PTO-892 FORM

Further, it is respectfully noted Piddle et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,807,888) is not included on the PTO - 892 Form. Accordingly, it is requested a new PTO-892 form be submitted in a next action.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the claims clearly distinguish over the patents relied on by the Examiner, either alone or in combination.

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance.

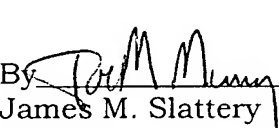
If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone David A. Bilodeau at (703) 205-8072 in the Washington, D.C. area.

A prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Dated:

Respectfully submitted,

By  ^{by Mr} _{Slattery}
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